

--7. The method of Claim 5, wherein the step of re-routing comprises the steps of:

832
5 print job.--
defining the remainder of the at least a portion of the print job; and
attaching a separator page to the remainder of the at least a portion of the

--8. The method of Claim 7, wherein the step of defining comprises the step of:

5 defining the remainder of the at least a portion of the print job as the unprinted part of the at least a portion of the print job including the page of the at least a portion of the print job whereupon the error occurred.--

--9. The method of Claim 8, wherein the step of attaching comprises the steps of:

5 creating a separator page associated with the remainder of the at least a portion of the print job; and
attaching the separator page to the remainder of the at least a portion of the print job.--

--10. The method of Claim 9, wherein the step of creating a separator page comprises the step of:

designating an additional page to be inserted in the at least a portion of the print job following the last page that resulted in generation of an end-of-page signal.--

--11. The method of Claim 5, wherein the step of re-routing comprises the steps of:

reconfiguring the virtual printer system if a second print engine in the virtual printer system is not available;

5 printing the re-routed remainder of the at least a portion of the print job; and
assembling the pages of the print job printed after re-routing with the pages of the print job printed before re-routing.--

Sub C2>

--12. An apparatus for automatically processing printer errors occurring during printing of a print job in a virtual printer system wherein each virtual printer is configurable with a plurality of print engines, comprising:

5 a detector for detecting occurrence of an error condition during printing of at least a portion of a print job in one of the print engines in the virtual printer; and

B2 a router for re-routing the remainder of the at least a portion of the print job not processed by the one print engine to a second print engine in the virtual printer system.--

SJR
DI 13. The apparatus of Claim 12, wherein said detector comprises:

a reading device for reading an error status signal generated by a print engine;

5 an interrupt device for interrupting said at least a portion of said print job in which said error status signal was generated; and

a device for releasing said print engine from said virtual printer system in which said error condition occurred.--

--14. The apparatus of Claim 12, wherein said router comprises:

a remainder determination device for defining said remainder of said at least a portion of said print job; and

5 an attaching device for attaching a separator page to said remainder of said at least a portion of said print job.--

--15. The apparatus of Claim 14, wherein said remainder determination device is operable:

to define said remainder of said at least a portion of said print job as the unprinted part of said at least a portion of said print job including the page of said at least a portion of said print job whereupon said error occurred.--

--16. The apparatus of Claim 14, wherein said attaching device comprises:

a separator device for creating a separator page associated with said remainder of said at least a portion of said print job prior to said attaching device attaching said separator page to said remainder of said at least a portion of said print